

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

**Amendments to the Specification:**

**Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0001] This application is a continuation patent application of U.S. Application No. 10/243,704, filed September 14, 2002, currently pending and entitled to the benefit of Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/322,417 filed September 15, 2001.

**Please replace paragraph [0018] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0018] Hence, there is a need for solving the problem of providing an equine hoof shoe or boot that provides for optimized balanced cushioning, flexibility and comfort while also providing for healing enhancements for different equine hoof ailments and for a healthily hoof in the overall normal wear and use of the horses hooves. A need also exists for a horse shoe which provides not only either protection from the environment or addresses one specific medical need, but rather there is a need for a shoe which also provides for diagnostic, medical, corrective, rehabilitative, and/or emergency environments related to horse hoof care in a single shoe. A need also exists for horse boots/coverings which are not retained by being strapped with buckles, molded, clamped or retained with metal brackets and when subjected to forces, common and uncommon to the hoof, remains retained on the hoof.[[.]] A horse shoe/boot is also needed which allows adjustability, and has secure closures that do not pop open during use. A need also exists for a boot which addresses all of the foregoing concerns and short comings in the prior art and further which fits the hoof in a manner that does not cause stress to the leg while in use. Evolving equine industry has established the fact that equine hoof care comprises more than the steel shoe now used in most equine environments. Enhanced flexibility within the healing process in solving multiple equine hoof diseases with the one-dimensional steel shoe is creating an

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

environment wherein more thought is being made to alternative multi-dimensional solutions. Research has led the industry in the direction of a non-shod trend in the major equine environments, including, but not limited to, normal, medicated, corrective, rehabilitative and/or emergencies. This trend suggests there needs to be equine related hoof care shoes and management systems configured to be used in all of the foregoing environments.

**Please replace paragraph [0019] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0019] The present invention is distinguished over the known prior art in a multiplicity of ways. For one thing, the present invention provides an equine hoof-ware system which establishes the general framework for equine hoof comfort variations using single and/or multiple inserts. The inserts are affixed to an internal interlocking mechanism uniquely designed inside the equine hoof shoe/boot/hugger to lock each insert while being used to reach the comfort level for the required healthy or unhealthy-to-healthy state of the horse. Individual horse owners/caretakers have available to them through the embodiments of this invention, a complete line of comfort products for their horses including variations, combinations, multiple fixes ~~[[fixed]]~~ by using the multiple internal inserts designed for the general comfort, disease, external abnormalities, soft soles, or lost shoes.

**Please replace paragraph [0020] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0020] Furthermore, the present invention provides an equine “lightweight” versatile hoof-ware specially configured to be used on a “non-shod” equine and for multiple hoof uses in all equine environments. Thus, one horse boot is provided that may be used for comfort, injury, emergency and all other situations arising in equine environments. The inserts are designed in multiple densities, ~~thicknesses, and~~ thicknesses, and materials. When used in conjunction with

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

the outer covering/hugger the hoof-ware system stabilizes equine hoof at normal use, enhances the medicinal healing processes as necessary, equalizes loading and unloading, provides corrective measures, optimizes rehabilitation processes, and comforts the hoof in all environments.

**Please delete paragraph [0023] beginning at page 11, line 19, which starts with “The equine hoof-ware”.**

**Please delete paragraph [0034] beginning at page 15, line 8, which starts with “Viewed from a second vantage point”**

**Please replace paragraph [0043] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0043]        [[F!G.]] FIG. 8 is a side view of the hoof-ware sole section.

**Please replace paragraph [0079] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0079]        In essence, and referring to the drawings, the present invention provides a comfort management system 10 for equine, comprising a sole 4 having a base circumscribed by a peripheral wall 5 having an upwardly and inwardly extending forward most end defining a countered upper 2, an upwardly and outwardly extending rearward most end 8, and a pair of spaced apart upwardly extending sidewalls 18 interposed between said forward most end and said rearward most end of said peripheral wall for defining a receiving area. The system 10 also includes a mid-sole [[2]] 14 received within said receiving area and circumscribed by said peripheral wall 5. A removable insert [[14]] 15 is also provided. The system 10 also teaches an interlocking means 12 (FIG. 5) integrally formed with the mid-sole [[2]] 14 and with said removable insert [[14]] 15 and comprised of at least one complementary protrusion 16d, 16e, 16f, and 16g and indention pair 16, 16a, 16b, and 16c (FIG. 18) mating the removable insert

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

[[14]] 15 and the mid-sole [[2]] 14 for receiving and interlocking said two together such that said removable insert [[14]] 15 can be inserted and then removed and replaced with a different removable insert, ~~for example 38~~ to be discussed hereinbelow, for treating different equine hoof related ailments. The system 10 also includes a [[A]] front upper 6 connected to [[said]] the sole 4 and/or mid-sole 14 and circumscribing [[said]] the forward most end W and [[said]] the pair of sidewalls of [[said]] the sole 4 for defining an opening 118 (FIG. 16) for receiving an equine hoof into said front upper 6 and onto said mid-sole [[2]] 14 and sole 4. The front upper extending upwardly from the sole 4 and mid-sole [[2]] 14 at an angle and terminating into an upper edge 70 which angles downwardly from [[said]] the forward most end to [[said]] the rearward most end of [[said]] the sole 4 such that [[said]] the front upper 6 tapers from [[said]] the forward most end to [[said]] the rearward most end of [[said]] the sole 4 for substantially covering a forward region and [[said]] the regions of the equine hoof received therein. A contoured back upper 8 comprised of a lower section operatively coupled to said rearward most end of said sole 4, an upwardly extending bulb section 128 integrally formed with said lower section and shaped to receive an equine bulb of a heel, and a pair of extensions 226 integrally formed with said upwardly extending bulb section for wrapping around said front upper 6. Means are provided for coupling said pair of extensions to said front upper 6 such that when said equine hoof is received into said front upper 6 and onto [[said]] the mid-sole [[2]] 14 and sole 4 and when [[said]] the pair of extensions 226 are coupled to [[said]] the front upper 6 the equine hoof is essentially surrounded and secured within the equine hoof-ware.

**Please replace paragraph [0080] with the following amended paragraph:**

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

[0080] Viewing figures 1, 17 and 18, it can be seen that in one embodiment the equine hoof-ware 10 includes an interlocking means 12 comprised of three triangularly spaced complementary protrusions 16[[],]e, 16f, 16g and indentions 16a, b and c pairs disposed on the removable insert [[14]] 15 and the mid-sole [[2]] 14 for receiving and interlocking the two together such that the removable insert can be inserted and then removed and replaced with a different removable insert, ~~for example 38,~~ for treating different equine hoof related ailments.

**Please replace paragraph [0081] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0081] The equine hoof-ware interlocking means 12 is further comprised of a rectangularly shaped complementary protrusion 16d and indentation 16 pair disposed at a back end on the removable insert [[14]] 15 and the mid-sole [[2]] 14 for receiving and interlocking the two together such that the removable insert can be inserted and then removed and replaced with a different removable insert for treating different equine hoof related ailments.

**Please replace paragraph [0082] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0082] The equine hoof-ware interlocking means 12 is further comprised of a triangularly shaped complementary protrusion 17 and indentation 19 disposed proximate the back ends of the removable insert [[14]] 15 and the mid-sole [[2]] 14 at a location surmounting said rectangularly shaped complementary protrusion and indentation pair for receiving and interlocking the two together such that the removable insert can be inserted and then removed and replaced with a different removable insert for treating different equine hoof related ailments.

**Please replace paragraph [0083] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0083] The equine hoof-ware front upper 6 is further comprised of a front section and side sections which upwardly extend from said sole 4 and mid-sole [[2]] 14 at an angle and terminates

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

into the upper edge 70 which angles downwardly from said forward most end to said rearward most end of the sole 4 such that the side sections of upper 6 taper from the forward most end to the rearward most end of the sole 4 for substantially covering a forward region and side regions of the equine hoof received therein.

**Please replace paragraph [0085] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0085] More specifically, and viewing FIG. 1, the equine hoof-ware 10 is further comprised  
of The equine hoof-ware 10 is further comprised of, and viewing FIG. 1, a sole 4 having a base  
extending from a forward most end to a rearward most end of the sole 4, a mid-sole 2 connects to  
mid-sole 14 disposed on a top of sole 4, and peripheral wall 5 connecting to the base of the sole 4  
and including a cross sectional area upwardly slopping from the rearward most end of the sole 4  
and then downwardly sloping for providing a relief area and then upwardly slopping to the  
forward most end of the sole 4 such that when the mid-sole 2 peripheral wall 5 is compressed the  
cross sectional area absorbs equine impact. A front upper 6 is provided and is connected to the  
mid-sole 6 and circumscribing peripheral wall 5 and interiorly circumscribes a forward most end  
and a pair of sidewalls of mid-sole 2 peripheral wall 5 for defining an opening 118 for receiving  
an equine hoof into the front upper 6 and onto the mid-sole 14 and/or insert 15, and thus onto  
sole 4, said mid-sole 2. The front upper 6 extending upwardly from the mid-sole [[2]] 14 at an  
angle and terminating into [[an]] upper edge 70 which angles downwardly from the forward most  
end to [[said]] the rearward most end of [[said]] the sole such that [[said]] the front upper tapers  
from [[said]] the forward most end to the rearward most end of the sole 4 for substantially  
covering a forward region and regions of the equine hoof received therein. ~~A contoured~~  
Contoured back upper 8 is also disclosed and is comprised of a lower section operatively coupled

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

to [[said]] the rearward most end of the sole 4, [[an]] upwardly extending bulb section 128 integrally formed with the lower section and shaped to receive an equine bulb of a heel, and [[a]] the pair of extensions 226 integrally formed with the upwardly extending bulb section for wrapping around the front upper 6. Means are also provided for coupling the pair of extensions 226 to the front upper 6 such that when the equine hoof is received into [[said]] the front upper and onto the mid-sole 14 and/or insert 15, and thus onto sole 4, said mid-sole and sole and when [[said]] the pair of extensions are coupled to the front upper 6, the equine hoof is essentially surrounded and secured within the equine hoof-ware.

**Please replace paragraph [0086] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0086] ~~The equine comfort management system of the present invention, and further when viewing FIG. 1, further provides a hoof ware device including a bottom sole 4 which includes an upper periphery 5 and a mid sole 2 surmounted to the upper periphery 5. The mid sole 2 is in turn attached to a front upper 6 via a trim line 122 by means of stitching or adhesive which is well known in the art, and as informed by the present disclosure. The Peripheral wall 5 includes a trim line 122 that traverses the mid sole 2 wall 5 from its forward most end to its rearward most end, and attaches to a back 8, which in turn is attached to a back contoured heel cover 128 via adhesive and/or stitching as is well known in the art and as disclosed in the present invention. An upper trim or edge 70 is also provided and is preferably formed from leather or a similar acceptable type material which in turn, connects via stitching or adhesive (as is well known in the art and disclosed by the present invention) with inwardly shown reinforced power frame 224 (shown in phantom), and pulling up The front upper 6 pulls over the front hoof wall[[,]] and is connected by hook and loop attachment 116, connected to the back 8, which is preferably formed~~

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

from stretchy neoprene material, ~~protruding from the inside pulled outwardly and outside pulled inwardly and/or vice versa as a~~ A hook and loop stretch strap 226 ~~wrapping wraps~~ around the hoof-ware front upper 6 from the outside and/or inside and/or vice versa. The strap 226 is held in place with a Velcro or similar type adhesive material to securely hold the straps in place, even when exposed to normal and abnormal stress and forces.

**Please replace paragraph [0087] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0087] Viewing the individual details of the component parts of the present invention, FIG. 2 shows details of the bottom sole 4 attached to peripheral wall 5 circumscribing contoured mid-sole ~~[[2]]~~ 14 with reinforced power frame 224 juxtaposed ~~therebetween~~ sole 4 and mid-sole 14.

**Please replace paragraph [0089] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0089] FIG. 4 shows details of contoured back 8 which wraps around the bulb of the heel of a hoof and attaches forward around the front of hoof. ~~adhering to mid-sole 2 and front upper 6 as is apparent throughout the various drawings.~~ At least one hole 120 is provided on the back 8 for example, providing through air flow.

**Please replace paragraph [0090] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0090] The details of the interior of the hoof-ware sole 4 connection to a shock absorbing mid-sole section or a contoured mid-sole section 14, ~~contoured to the upper sole and revealing the embodiments of the sole 4 connection to the base of mid-sole 2 with~~ and to peripheral wall 5 including contoured upper 2 having a height range of 1/2 an inch to 3 1/2 inches are shown in FIG. 5. The peripheral wall 5 includes dual angled sole sidewalls 18 having a lower angle of 90 degrees to 160 degrees and an upper angle which varies from 90 degrees to 30 degrees. The shock absorbing mid-sole section or insert 14 has a varied derometer from 20 A to 90 D which



Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

provides a vented air flow base. Alternatively, both a single and dual density are provided at contoured mid-sole section or insert 14 with a hoof bracket 20 residing ~~immediately thereabove~~ therebelow and traversing laterally across section 14 thereby causing reinforced outer hoof stability. Back 8, operatively connected to the sole 4, mid-sole ~~[[2]]~~ 14, varies from 90 degrees to 30 degrees and includes a drainage system 11 for the through entry and departure of solutions of sorts. Residing abut against the mid interior portion of back 8 and bordered on each side by the shock absorbing mid-sole section 14 and dual angled side wall 18 of peripheral wall 5 ~~mid-sole 2~~, is a tri-lock insole interlocking system/device 12 to be used for holding inserts in place, to be discussed hereinafter.

**Please replace paragraph [0091] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0091] FIG. 6 is side view of the hoof-ware sole 4 taken in cross-section and profiling the dimensions of the device, front to back, sole 4 has a range of 1.0 to 15.0 millimeters thickness, front to back 52, a range of 76.0 millimeters to 350 millimeters, front bend or corner 48 of sole 4 is 5.0 ~~[[R]]~~ millimeters to 30.0 millimeters, a front sole 4 rising up 50 has a range of 10.0 millimeters to 50.0 millimeters, thickness 46 has a range of 1.0 millimeters to 10.0 millimeters, a top thickness range of 1.0 to 10.0 millimeters 40 and length of angle range 0.0 millimeters to 50 millimeters, angle 42 embodying a range of 45 degrees to 65 degrees 42, back bottom bend or corner 60 has a range of 0.0 millimeters to 30 millimeters, 28 to back device bend 58 has a range of 1.0 millimeters at 10.0 millimeters in length at top of sole back 58, range degree 56 angle ranging from 45 degrees to 90 degrees, mid-sole inset 38 has a range of 1.0 millimeters of 10.0 millimeters.

**Please replace paragraph [0092] with the following amended paragraph:**

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

[0092] FIG. 7 is a side view of hoof-ware sole 4 taken in cross-section profiling from side to side the dimensions of mid-sole insert 38 which has a range 1.0 millimeters to 10.0 millimeters thickness, sole 4 bottom thickness 29 has a range of 1.0 millimeters to 15.0 millimeters, corner or bend of sole and mid-sole thickness range of [[R]] 0.0 millimeters to [[R]] 30.0 millimeters, side height 32 has a range of 10.0 millimeters to 50.0 millimeters, front sole thickness 26 has a range of 1.0 millimeters to 10.0 millimeters, top thickness 24 has a range of 1.0 millimeters to 10.0 millimeters, interior side to side length 34 has a range of 64.0 millimeters to 350.0 millimeters.

**Please replace paragraph [0094] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0094] FIG. 9 is a side view profile of ~~hoof-ware wall contour of mid-sole (2) when viewing the mid-sole 2 in a downward angle~~ peripheral wall 5.

**Please replace paragraph [0095] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0095] FIG. 10 is a top plan view of hoof-ware mid-sole [[2]] 14 showing a range of 64.0 millimeters to 350.0 millimeters 74 when the dimensions is taken from side to side, and 76.0 millimeters to 350.0 millimeters 76 when the dimensions are taken from front to back.

**Please replace paragraph [0096] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0096] FIG. 11 is a side view of an alternative embodiment of the hoof-ware sole 4 connected to a mid-sole 38, connected to sidewall 18 (shown in section) and upper 6. Sole 4 and mid-sole 38 are of a contoured shape for correct movement and break over with variable thickness for support and wear which are desirable for proper hoof maintenance. It is to be noted that multiple sole 4 designs for grip and wear have been established by horse breeders and are taught by the disclosure herein such that angled wall 40 is angled to conform to a hoof, and interior wall

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

62 is configured to bracket the hoof, and tapered side edge 64, interposed between mid-sole 38 and upper 6, is configured to blend with upper material 6 to contour with the hoof providing breathable materials that are angled upper from front to back as shown by 70 from 45 degrees to 90 degrees. A Velcro hook or connection 68 connects to back ~~section 8~~ section 8, padded trimmed upper 70, stretch insert 72 and front upper 6 and is used for accommodating hoof size variations, including angled back 8 to contour with the hoof heel shape that is 45 degrees to 90 degrees.

**Please replace paragraph [0097] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0097] FIG. 12 is a sidewall diagram of the hoof-ware sole 4, without mid-sole 38, shown in a side to side view, this embodiment of sole 4 at end of sole protruded rubber 84 there is shown a range of 1.0 millimeters to 15.0 millimeters, and a range of 1.0 millimeters to 12.0 millimeters at inside of protruded rubber 86, corner or bend 94 has a range of 0.0 ~~[[R]]~~ millimeters to 30.0 ~~[[R]]~~ millimeters, upper wall width has a range of 1.0 millimeters to 10 millimeters 78, front height has a range of 10.0 millimeters to 50.0 millimeters 100, embodying and resulting in a thickness of 1.0 millimeters to 10.0 millimeters, and a length range from side to side of 76.0 millimeters to 350.0 millimeters 98.

**Please replace paragraph [0098] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0098] FIG. 13 is a sidewall diagram of the hoof-ware sole 4 front to back, with a range length of 76.0 millimeters to 350.0 millimeters 98a, front range of 10.0 millimeters to 50.0 millimeters 80, a top thickness range of 1.0 millimeters to 10.0 millimeters 78, corner or bend in front range of 0.0 millimeters ~~[[R]]~~ to 30.0 millimeters ~~[[R]]~~ 82, back height 92 range of 10.0

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

millimeters to 50 millimeters, back corner or bend 94 range 0.0 millimeters [[R]] to 30.0 millimeters [[R]], and two grooves 96 for stitching.

**Please replace paragraph [0099] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0099] FIG. 14 is a view of the sidewall 18 profile of the hoof-ware contour design, height range of 10.0 millimeters to 50.0 millimeters 102, with a beginning angle height of contour 106 range 20.0 millimeters to 50.0 millimeters, a mid-angle height range of 10 millimeters of contour 108 to 50 millimeters. End ~~end~~ contour design range 110 extending 10 millimeters to 50 millimeters.

**Please replace paragraph [0102] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0102] FIG. 17 is a top plan view diagramming the dimensions of an embodiment of an insert 15 and tri-lock interlocking mechanism 12 and wherein insert 15 can be comprised of as shown in FIG. 18 with an interchangeable sole insert using multiple materials, shapes, densities, [[.]] designs, colors, diagnostics, evaluation components, air flow venting, and providing an insert 130a of multiple hoof sizes front to back having dimensions sizing range 3 inches to 12 inches, shown by line demarcation 130b, side to side sizing range 2 1/2 inches to 12 inches, shown by line demarcation 130c, bottom right side circular interlock 16e 16f, shown by line demarcation 132a [[and]] has a range 1/4 inch to 1 inch diameter and looking downward toward the back, bottom left side circular interlock 16f 16d, shown by line demarcation 132c [[and]] has a range 1/4 inch to 1 inch diameter looking downward toward the back. circular Circular interlock 16g, shown by line demarcation 132b may have a range 1/4 inch to 1 inch diameter, tri-lock locking system for pads 132, tri-lock attachment to sole 134, back of sole perpendicular lock 132d, being 1/2 inch,

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

back of sole to tip point of triangle 132e, being 2.4 inches, bottom of triangle 132f, being 1 1/2 inches, perpendicular bottom of triangle 132g is a 1/2 inch by 2 inches.

**Please replace paragraph [0103] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0103] FIG. 18 is a top and side plan view of an embodiment of mid-sole 14 and removable insert 15 including interlocking means 12. ~~alliterative embodiment insert into hoof ware device with tri-lock interlocking mechanism of FIG. 17 into sole 4 and shock absorbing mid-sole section 14 mechanism of the hoof ware device, downwardly view of the tri-lock 12 interlocking device~~ Part of the interlocking means 12 is embodied to the mid-sole 14 thereby being embodied to the sole 4, and includes a tri-lock inset 16 ~~[[of]] interlocking mechanism with and complementing tri-lock device 16d, tri-lock mechanism 16a interlocking with tri-lock mechanism 16e 16f, tri-lock mechanism 16b interlocking with tri-lock mechanism 16f 16e, and tri-lock mechanism 16c~~ [[,]] interlocking with tri-lock mechanism 16g.

**Please replace paragraph [0112] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0112] FIG. 27 is a top and side plan view of add-on triangle attachment 158 to wedge insert 148 into hoof-ware device with tri-lock interlocking mechanism 12, back height of wedge insert 148a 1/10th inch to 2 inches, mid-point height of wedge insert 148b 1/10th inch to 2 inches, ~~[[,]]~~ front height of wedge Insert 148c 1/10th inch to 2 inches, front of wedge insert to tip 148d of triangle insert 158, 1 3/4 inches to 7 inches, side to side mid-point of wedge insert 148e 2 1/2 inches to 12 inches, front tip to back of triangle attachment 158a 1 1/4 inches to 5 inches, base side to side of triangle attachment range 1 inches to 6 inches, width of base from triangle to triangle base 156c 1/4 inch to 1 inch, top of triangle base to back of triangle base 158d 1/2 inches to 1 inches height of triangle attachment 158e.

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

**Please replace paragraph [0115] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0115] FIG. 30 is a top and side plan view of concave contour 164 flat insert 136 into hoof-ware device with tri-lock interlocking mechanism 12 with a height of flat insert 136a 1/10th inches to 2 inches, mid-point side to side of flat insert 136 to outer wall of concave contour 136b 1/2 inch to center point of side to side dimension, mid-point side to side of flat insert 136 to right side looking downward to outer wall of concave contour 136d 1/2 inch to center point of side to side dimension[[.]], back of concave contour 164 to back of flat insert 136c range to 0 inches, downwardly look at front of flat insert 136 to front of concave contour 164 is 136e 1/2 inch to center point of side to side dimension, front to back of concave contour 164a range of 1/2 inch to 0 inches, back of concave contour base to height of flat insert 136) is 164b range of 1/16th inch from bottom of insert to top of insert[[.]], mid-point side to side 164c of concave contour multiple ranges from 1/16th inch upward slope to top of insert 136.

**Please replace paragraph [0120] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0120] FIG. 35 is a top and side plan view of mechanical diagnostic insert 180 with tri-lock interlocking mechanism 12 with a measurement device 180a capturing hoof data in back one-half of hoof; capture hoof data in mid-point of hoof 180b, capture hoof data in front one-half of hoof; captured front hoof data (180d)[[.]], independent data gathering module 178 device, connecting insert of module device to diagnostic insert 178c.

**Please replace paragraph [0121] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0121] FIG. 36 is a top and side plan view of x-ray/radiograph liner insert 190 into hoof-ware device with adjustable wire markers with tri-lock interlocking mechanism 12 base object for x-ray/radiograph 184b, side vertical measuring device 186a, width 186b configurations vary

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

and may be exactly the same as front vertical measuring device 186a and width 186b same device attaches to the non-pictured side and back side[[.]], height 188b from top base in front to top of upper device 188a.

**Please replace paragraph [0126] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0126] FIG. 41 is a side view of an alternative embodiment hoof-ware device showing similar qualities as FIG. 1 and FIG. 42, and other previously descended hoof-ware art, and as taught by the present invention with attachment system 234, sole 4 connected molded to mid-sole [[2]] 14, attached to upper neoprene 8 contoured back 128, connected to upper leather trim 70, power frame 224 with dotted lines showing non-open view attached to mid-sole [[2]] 14 and sole 4 and protruding upwardly on front hoof wall with attached hook and loop 116 attached to outside of power frame 224 material, front hoof wall cover device 228 is attached to front mid-sole [[2]] 14 opened widely in front of hoof-ware device and closed tightly over power frame attached to upper back with metal/plastic zipper 230, further closed tightly with single and/or combination metal or plastic quick release bratchet/zipper type buckle attachment 232 that is easily releasable, adjustable and/or ratcheted, connects front hoof wall cover 228 to back strap device 234.

**Please replace paragraph [0127] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0127] FIG. 42 is a side view of the hoof-ware device showing sole 4, connected to the mid-sole [[2]] 14, attached to the upper 6 with a trim line 122, attached to the back 8, attached to the back contoured heel cover 128, attached to the upper leather and like materials as upper trim 70, inwardly showing reinforced power frame 224 pulling up over the front hoof wall, connected by hook and loop 116 attachment, connected to the back stretchy neoprene material 8, pultruding

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

from the inside pulled outwardly and outside pulled inwardly and/or vice versa as a hook and loop stretch strap (226) wrapping around hoof wall from the outside and/or inside and/or vice versa.

**Please replace paragraph [0128] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0128] In addition, the equine lightweight versatile hoof-ware 10 comprising an upper 6, a mid-sole [[2]] 14, a sole 4, embodying multiple inserts is provided. The hoof-ware sole 4 embodying multiple rubber compounds and/or poly/urethane. The hoof-ware 10 is capable of multiple ground engaging equine compression surface configurations including multiple soft, tough, uniquely spaced and integrally formed designs calibrated to equine breeds pointed downwardly below bottom surface of sole 4, wherein said designs [[.]], when compressed, will absorb and/or cushion all and/or partial equine impacts during all ground engagements in all healthy environments, said designs fit multiple equine breed's total environment.

**Please replace paragraph [0129] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0129] Further the sole 4 is uniquely bonded to the mid-sole [[2]] 14, hoof-ware mid-sole [[2]] 14 having multiple configurations of polyurcthanes, EVA/foam composites, rubber compounds, polyethylenes, silicones, sorbothane, polymers, and other similar materials embodied to flex, cushion, absorb partial and/or all shocks and equine impacts in all ground engagements in all earthly environments.

**Please replace paragraph [0130] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0130] The hoof-ware upper 6 is uniquely bonded and attached to mid-sole [[2]] 14 and sole 4, mid-sole [[2]] 14 comprising multiple stretch and non-stretch fabrics, leathers, embodied wear and/or weather resistant materials designed for all equine environments. The upper



Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

embodiments further comprising multiple materials with multiple attachment devices designed for all equine earthly environments.

**Please replace paragraph [0131] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0131] Moreover, the hoof-ware 10 is configured to embody multiple inserts including, but not limited to normal use, medicinal, correction, rehabilitation, emergencies, performance, and/or preventative. The inserts further embodying all equine hoof related diseases, symptoms and/or lameness designed for: partial and/or all configurations involved in all equine earthly environments. The hoof-ware 10 and/or inserts and/or used together size range is miniature (3 inches front to back, 2.5 inches side to side at mid-point), pony, 000, 00, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 ~~back, 2.5 inches side to side at mid-point~~, ~~pony, 000, 00, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12~~ (12 inches front to back, 12 inches side to side at mid-point), 13, 14.

**Please replace paragraph [0132] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0132] The hoof-ware configuration, combination and integration of equine hoof-ware device embodying insert devices for purposes of diagnostics, performance, correction, medicinal, emergencies, preventative, rehabilitation and or normal use. Multiple configurations are provided of inserts embodying multiple compounds, densities, cut outs, convex and concave contours, perforations, sizes, add-ons. In addition, inserts are provided, such inserts embodying multiple mechanical devices to comprehensively measure, diagnose, analyze equine hoof configurations. Further, inserts embodying multiple x-ray devices to comprehensively measure, diagnose, analyze equine hoof configurations. In addition, inserts embodying multiple electronic devices to comprehensively measure, diagnose, analyze equine hoof configurations. Moreover,

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Prelim. Amdt. dated September 24, 2003  
Before a first Office action on the merits

inserts embodying multiple movements of same insert, up and down, side to side[[.]], slant to slant[[.]], are also provided.

**Please replace the Abstract beginning on page 48 with the following amended abstract:**

The present invention relates generally to a comfort management system for equine and, in particular, to a multi-purpose, multi-functional hoof-ware device, boot or shoe and multiple, interchangeable inserts for all equine hooves that uses, attaches, wraps, and fits the hoof while the equine is stalled, walking, trotting, loping for the purposes of protection, healing, alignment[[.]], cushioning and/or any other medicinal purposes for any given period of time fitting all sizes of equine hooves in multiple hoof environments, such as, diagnostics, normal use, during and after performance, corrective, medicinal purposes, emergencies situations, for preventative purposes, and rehabilitation of the hoof.